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MONTEREY NEWS

December, 1980

O U R T O W N

Accolades from Monterey, California

In mid-November the Selectmen received a framed Proclamation from the Office of the Mayor in Monterey, California. The Proclamation, embellished in gold, capped with a silhouette of California's Constitution Hall in 1849 and sealed with a gold sticker and a red ribbon, gives praise to Monterey, Mass., for taking "second place honors" in the New England-Canada Energy Contest. It goes on to say, assisted by a staunch row of Whereases, that the Mayor of Monterey, California commends its "namesake" city of Monterey Mass. for "its exemplary demonstration of the conservation ethic during the recent competition." There is reference to the way the people of Monterey "bravely endured three days of near freezing temperature and dimly-lit homes in their effort to demonstrate their commitment to the principles of energy conservation during the competition" and to the consideration of "additional innovations as a small hydroelectric dam to power the library, community-owned windmills, and a solar-heated and wood fueled firehouse." The Proclamation winds up, near tears, with the assurance that "even though Monterey, Massachusetts finished second place in the Energy Competition, it took first place in the hearts of its fellow Montereyans."

In a cover letter from P.L. O'Hearn, City Clerk, it is explained that Mayor Gerald Fry's wife, Mrs. Mary Fry, noticed an article in California's Monterey Herald about the "valiant efforts" our townspeople have made in conserving energy. In a second paragraph P.L. O'Hearn allows that Mr. John Dunn, City Manager, seemed to think that our town was named after his. There is a request for more information on the origin of the name.

Judy Kales, Secretary to the Monterey, Mass. Board of Selectmen, in a spirited reply to the Clerk's letter, provided in addition to a copy of the booklet prepared in 1972 in honor of the Town's 125th Anniversary, this information on the history of the naming of Monterey:

> We asked members of our Historical Commission to comment on your question regarding the origin of our Town's name, and we are informed by these learned ladies and gentlemen that Monterey took its name in 1847 from Monterrey in Mexico, due to the nation-wide interest given the Battle of Monterrey. The second 'r,' however, was lost in the mists of time, and no one knows when, why or where.

Presentation of Photovoltaics by Mass Electric

On December 4 there was a presentation of photovoltaic energy by representatives from Massachusetts Electric. By means of a 12 minute slide and sound show and by means of working demonstration models, information about present projects in photovoltaic energy was made available. Wafer-thin photovoltaic cells were passed around to those attending, and such appliances as radios were shown to be able to be powered by photovoltaics. Photovoltaic energy is electrical energy derived from the sun's light. Mass Electric officials report that the costs of the technology for this conversion are coming down.

Town Treasurer Repeats

Town Treasurer Barbara Gauthier asks once again that taxpayers be aware that property tax bills paid after January 1, 1981 are not deductible from 1980 taxes. In addition to that, taxpayers are urged to pay their bills immediately because the Town has borrowed approximately $130,000 to get through the period during which the tax bills were held up by red tape in Boston. The sooner the Town can pay its debts, the better.

CATHOLIC CHURCHES CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Mass at Immaculate Conception in Mill River: 10:00AM Sundays. Mass at Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield, 5:30 PM Saturday, 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM and 10:00 AM Sunday.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship and Regular Meetings — Morning Worship each Sunday at 10:00 AM. Childcare each Sunday at 10:30 AM in the Social Room. Meditation and prayer for the community, inviting all who wish to join us, each Thursday, 7:30 AM in the Social Room. Prayer group each Thursday, 7:45 PM at Lucy Smith's home.

Christmas Related Events — Christmas Caroling, Friday, December 19, 6:30 PM. We will meet at the Church and proceed through the town and community, stopping to carol, especially at homes of aged or shut-in persons. Dress warmly. Bring the joy and cheer of Christmas to others. The young of heart of all ages are invited to share in this event.

Christmas Sunday Worship, Sunday December 21 at 10:30 AM. The music and messages of Christmas will be celebrated throughout the service. "The Word Made Flesh" will be the theme of the worship. All in the community are invited.

Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 21 at 7:30 PM. Readers from the community, the Choir, and singers from the community are active participants in this lovely time of memory, recollection and anticipation. The service will be by candlelight and will conclude with a candle-lighting service.

Christmas at Gould Farm December 24, 7:30 PM. Gould Farm invites all in the community to share in their Christmas Eve celebration in the Main House and concluding with a living nativity scene at the barn.

Burning of the Greens, Epiphany Day — January 6--Burning greens is a no, no! This is just to remind us of the way we used to conclude the Christmas season. Now we encourage people to complete the Christmas season by taking the greens out into the woods and placing them to return to the earth that gave growth.

THE MONTEREY NEWS NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Monterey News has been given access to a mailing list compiled by Anne Williams for the correspondences issued during the Energy Contest in October. Names and addresses were taken from the Town Assessors' records, from the Town Clerk's Registered Voters list and from the Monterey News' original mailing list. Wally Parks, Monterey's infinitely amenable Postmaster, consented to review and consolidate the various lists. The new mailing list has effectively doubled our circulation. Despite Anne's and Wally's efforts, there still may be duplications. Some of you voters and taxpayers may be receiving the Monterey News who wish you weren't. You may know someone in a position of unique anonimity who is not receiving the Monterey News who wishes he was. It costs considerably more in labor and supplies to print and mail newsletters to our newly expanded audience. Please help us by letting us know whether you wish to continue receiving the Monterey News, whether you are getting more than one issue, and/or whether you know someone who somehow escaped our notice. Last of all, you part time residents who have two mailing addresses, give us an idea how to mail your issues to you: always to Monterey? to Monterey in summer and elsewhere in winter? always to elsewhere? Help.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Comments and Instructions:

Mail to: Lilen Pearson, Box 264, Monterey, MA 01245

(If you don't want to cut up your Monterey News, just make a semblance of the form above and send it to the above address. Thanks.)

GOULD FARM NEWS

Thanksgiving Day has special meaning at Gould Farm and each year the day is celebrated with a certain extra gusto. In late November, 1913, William and Agnes Gould with a few relatives and a few Farm guests came from their outgrown quarters in Winsted Connecticut to start what proved to be their permanent home in Monterey. A few drove in a farm wagon with an old horse bringing household possessions. Others came in style by train from Winsted to Canaan where they changed for Great Barrington.

All looked forward eagerly to their new venture. Even the cold rain that came through the leaky roof on beds and blankets below could not dampen their ardor. Years later, Agnes Gould wrote "Our Thanksgiving dinner consisted of a few vegetables, which made us think of the verse from the book of Proverbs, "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith." Hardship came to the group, especially in the form of illness. Through these difficult days the newcomers experienced the kind help of numerous neighbors, Dr. John Beebe from Great Barrington, Julius Miner, the Reverend John Van Lurk, Rufus Trett and others from Monterey. Ed Whitney, a Hartsville builder, agreed to shingle the old roof, trusting Will Gold's promise to pay them in the spring, which he did. Through the long years, through good times and bad, the Farm has grown and attracted to itself many faithful workers and interesting guests looking for help with a variety of problems. At this year's Thanksgiving service led by Kent Smith, everyone gave thanks for all our blessings.

Rose McKee

MONTEREY GRANGE # 291

Monterey Grange #291 met December 3 for a regular meeting. It was voted to raise dues from $4.00 per year to $6.00. The Master and Lecturer gave an informative report of the recent State Session at South Deerfield. The Annual Christmas Party will be on Saturday December 13. The program will be followed by a covered dish supper at 8:00 PM. It will be for members, families and friends. There will be a dollar gift exchange. The meeting is open to the Public. Come and join in. The Grange would love to have you.

Mary Wallace, Lecturer

Compassion

Compassion

is for
the willingly superior
I'd rather have
my feet flat
on the ground
see eye to eye
so the other man
can pity me
right back
than look down
from a ladder
or the rim of a hole
or the deeps of a cloud
or the veils of a poem
or any upper place
where one stands is status
firm as firmament
who one is
is all
one offers

Susan McAllester

SIGNS OF HOPE

A year ago Cambodia was recognized as one of the most tragic places on the earth. Internal conflicts involving the most horrendous political machinations combined with massive external forces tugging and pulling for power had left the government a shambles, the economy in ruins and the people without means of helping themselves. Widespread disease and nearly non-existent food supplies was causing most death in epidemic proportions. A whole people were facing destruction in one of the virulent patterns to appear in modern times. Yet now a year later a miracle of reconstruction and hope has come to this gentle and courageous people. Cambodia is once again breathing the air of hope through a world-wide stirring of conscience and concern. Oxfam-America, one of the agencies which has performed so valiantly on behalf of the Cambodian people, reports that in a few months a fine rice crop will be harvested and new, humane structures are arising among the people. All of this, of course, was helped happen by the arousal of a world conscience concerning the plight of this land of people who were threatened with annihilation. It seems almost in the nature of a miracle that so much hope could be restored in the place of such desperation within a year's time.

This is one of the "good news" stories that has appeared on the earth during the past year. True, the whole land of Cambodia still has a long way to go, but the truly important thing is that now they are guided by hope instead of being immersed in a sea of despair. This is making all the difference in the world.

The world has been running on a short supply of hope in these recent years. Very few of the front page news items carry news that make a person want to stand up and cheer. Indeed a pall of pessimism and gloom generally surrounds world events. There is evidence of governments' inability to govern, of schools' inability to educate, of churches' inability to evoke the spiritual quest, of the homes' inability to provide centers of love. If anyone is seeking for evidence to support a mood of gloom he does not have far to look for extremely persuasive evidence.

The danger in this present time is that one many be so caught and hung-up by the break-down of old structures and values that the eyes are blinded to signs of hope that are appearing all around us. Most of us are better at tuning in on the ravages that inflation is making in our personal and national economies than we are in hearing about the wonderful good news from Cambodia. This is a serious impediment. Spiritually and psychologically we know that what gets our attention "gets us." The things we are focusing our eyes and ears on are shaping the way our energies will be expended. If most of my attention is focused on the dysfunctions and break-downs of old structures my energy inevitably will be spent primarily in finding some sort of toe-hold in the only security I know.

A rich historical perspective is imperative for those who would not have their spirits crushed by the darkness of our present era. When the barbarian invasions swept through the Mediterranian world it was hard to imagine that anything worthy of the name human could rise from the ruins, yet St. Augustine spoke of a quality of hope that began a whole new venturing of the human spirit. As the aged tree is felled what is the meaning of the sprouts that begin to appear around the stump?

It is a time to pay more attention to the sprouts. Some are showing real signs of vitality. In other ages which were dying, I wonder if there were so many evidences of hope springing up as there are in this present time? With no shortage of corruption in high places, how very many are the individuals and groups seeking a more just society. Though a mindless pollution of the earth goes on, how very many are the individuals and groups working for a sustainable environment. Though the moral fibre seems honeycombed with opportunism, how very many are the individuals and groups who are demonstrating by lives and actions a high degree of responsibility. There is a national magazine called Quest that is devoting its pages exclusively to reporting stories which reveal the pursuit of excellence which is going on all around us. Its role is to help our eyes see how real and vital are the evidences that renewal is a very powerful part of the human story.

In Charles Dickens' memorable The Tale of Two Cities he begins with these poignant words

> It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.

In his tale the worst in human life and the best showed themselves side by side. The great gift of Dickens was to help our eyes see and our lives celebrate the greatness and beauty that is present even in the worst of times. Pity that person who is so enslaved in the worst that his heart is not free to celebrate the evidences of the best that are very much alive and well.

The celebrations of Christmas and Hannukah are both in the air and penetrating our consciousness. Both are signs of hope in a world of darkness and oppression. May our various celebrations of this season enable our hearts to be attuned to the sights and sounds of hope. In Monterey we are witnessing stirrings, searchings for a community pattern that gives us wider and fuller choices about our future. Fear might nudge us to start such a search, but only the quality of hope will sustain it and bring it to life. We can help each other pass through the "worst of times." We can remind each other of the beautiful, loving, hopeful things that are happening around us. You have observed some incidents -- right out of life -- that speak to the spring of hope. Send them to us. We would like to print some of them.

Virgil V. Brallier, minister
Monterey United Church of Christ

BOY SCOUTS

Webelos Presently, the Webelos under the leadership of Donald Blanchard are working on completing their Activity Badges.

Youth Group The Monterey Youth Group travelled to Boston in mid-November to visit historical and cultural sites. The purpose of this and probably two more trips like it during the year is to acquaint the young people with urban centers in the northeast.

At the most recent meeting of the youth group there was a discussion of programming and recruiting relative to new plans for the group's future.

TOWN NEWS, CONTINUED

Monterey Energy Project Report

Mickey Friedman reports that he has been planning a new project to elaborate the work that has been done so far by the Energy Project. Mickey and other members of the Project have realized that there is considerable interest on the part of other communities in the nation in finding out how to start projects similar to the Energy Project in Monterey. Phone calls from radio stations and news organizations have come in asking how we began and how to continue. Mickey's idea is to produce a documentary video program on the whole Energy Planning Process in Monterey. Such a videotape could be a valuable tool to small communities throughout the country. Mickey has sent letters to 15 foundations as well as to the Massachusetts Department of Energy looking for money to produce the documentary. He is now using CET's word processing computer to write similar letters to 50 major corporations. As a beginning to this idea Mickey solicited help from John Macgruer of Sandisfield, Stephanie Bosco of Stockbridge and Lisa Dekooning of Stockbridge to shoot an experimental four minute Public Service spot about the Monterey Energy Contest. John Macgruer teaches film at Columbia University and Stephanie Bosco works for CET. Together they produced a short film to show to the Massachusetts State Energy Office with the hope that the people there would be interested either in a series of 60 second Public Information Commercials or in helping fund a full length documentary.

Anyone who is interested in contributing to the latest efforts of the Monterey Energy Project is encouraged to do so.

Assorted Data from the Late Great Monterey Energy Contest

Returns from the individual meter reading contest during the Energy Contest in October show the following reductions in electrical consumption during the contest period: Fred Phelps Family, 100%, Tony Reed Family, 100%, Ellen Pearson Family, 100%, John O'Conner Family, 97%, Mrs. Ann Slaughter, 88%, Henry Makuc family, 83%, Mickey Jervas Family, 73%, Walsh's Mobile Station, 71%, Hutto and Locher, 61%, Helen Shaw, 43%, Arnold Hayes Family 36%, Anonymous, 29%. Appropriate prizes will be awarded.

A recent meter reading made on Wednesday, December 3 and on Saturday, December 6 showed Monterey's consumption of electricity during this cold winter week to be 31,200 kilowatt hours. This is compared to 19,200 kwh during the 'normal' usage period measured in October and to about 18k600 kwh during the Contest period. Factors influencing the rise in consumption are numerous. Chief among them is the number of electrically heated homes (about 20% of the total) in town. When it gets cold, the heat goes on. We will monitor ourselves during the winter and see how our consumption varies.

The average figure for wind speed measured by the anemometer on the firehouse site during a period of 17 days ending December 5 is 7.02 mph. According to Alan Silverstein of CET, we would want the wind speed to average between 11 and 12 mph to power an electrical generator. However, wind speeds of the kind measured on the firehouse site can be used to do electrical resistance heating and to power electric lights.

A casual accounting revealed that Monterey's own Bud Rogers succeeded in soliciting over $1200 worth of goods from local merchants during the Energy Contest. In our calculation of Monterey's natural resources we must not forget special talents like Bud's.

December Community Dinner

At the combined Thanksgiving/Christmas Community Dinner diners were treated to a showing of uncut videotapes filmed by ABC TV during the Monterey Energy Contest. After an hour of rambling interviews, shots of black angus cattle, scenes of sun-burnished autumn foliage, zoom shots of the Monterey General Store and the like, David Bach inserted a three minute cartridge of the finished news segment. The contrast between unedited and edited footage was instructive. Shots of friends and neighbors andkids in Monterey were fun to watch. The audience shouted and cackled like an assortment of kin at a family reunion watching old home movies. Next month is planned a presentation of slides taken by photographers from both Time and Yankee Magazines during the Contest period. Watch for announcements of date and time.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ms. Pearson,

One evening a couple of weeks ago my wife and I were watching the news on television in Hong Kong. Suddenly Monterey came into view. Imagine our surprise and delight. There was 23, the store, the church and familiar faces. We had to go halfway around the world to view this wonderful sight. Monterey was showing the world how to conserve energy. It certainly lifted our spirits.

Traveling can enlighten and inform but it is good to be home again.

Very truly yours,

Harry Allen
New York, New York

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Tony and Debbie Reed have moved into their home which they have been building on Route 23.

Angie Vofford has been in Monterey for some months but now is at home in the house vacated by Tony and Debbie Reed right in the Village.

Walter and Daria Marwell have come to Monterey in the last month and have purchased the house formerly owned by Betty Peterson onthe Norwalk Acres Road.

Paul and Penny Halley of New York City have purchased the Lake Farm house on Tyringham Road. Paul will be remembered as director of the Children's Choir from the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. The Choir sang in the Monterey Church during a service last summer. The transaction was handledby Hebert Realty.

Jerry Fenton was admitted to practice law in Massachusetts on December 10. He began his practice in Pennsylvania. From 1972-77 he was assistant general council in the Panama Canal Co. He was for several years in Wisconsin before coming to Monterey. His wife, a physician, is currently completing her internship in dermatology in Wisconsin.

The community was saddened at the crib death of Erica Lynn, the two year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Amiel Segal on Friday December 12. A service was held Friday evening and the burial was on Sunday.

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T S

This month we gratefully acknowledge contributions to help in the publication of the Monterey News from:
M/M Henry Brooks, M/M James Chase, M/M Arthur Hebert

MONTEREY HOMEOWNERS

Protect your homes with twice a week checks of heating, plumbing, and security and plant watering.

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